

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08

TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 AF-10 AGR-20 RSR-01

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R 201750 Z JUN 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5384
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 3410

E. O. 11652 NA

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, AFRICA

SUBJ: EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE AFRICAN ASSOCIATED AND
COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIABLE COUNTRIES: EC COMMISSION
DRAFT MANDATE

REFS: A. EC 1817

B. EC 1818

C. EC BRUSSELS A-167

D. EC BRUSSELS A-239

E. EC BRUSSELS 3347

1. SUMMARY: THE EC COMMISSION HAS JUST PREPARED A
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DRAFT NEGOTIATING MANDATE FOR EC COUNCIL CONSIDERATION
LOOKING TOWARD THE FORTHCOMING YAOUNDE AND COMMONWEALTH
NEGOTIATIONS. THE TEXT IS NOT YET AVAILABLE TO US
BUT RELIABLE SOURCES STATE THAT IT IS BASED ON THE
THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION' S REPORT OF LAST
APRIL. END SUMMARY.

2. THE EC COMMISSION HAS FORWARDED TO THE MEMBER
STATES FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL A SHORT DRAFT MANDATE
WHICH WOULD COVER THE NEGOTIATION OF A YAOUNDE- TYPE
ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND ELIGIBLE AFRICAN
AND COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES. THIS DRAFT MANDATE IS
PART OF THE COMMUNITY PREPARATIONS FOR: (A) NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THESE COUNTRIES WHICH PROBABLY WILL BEGIN IN
SEPTEMBER AND (B) A PRE NEGOTIATION CONFERENCE WITH THE
SAME COUNTRIES TO BE HELD IN LATE JULY. COMMISSION
OFFICIALS TELL US THAT THE DOCUMENT IS BASED ENTIRELY
ON THE COMMISSION MEMORANDUM PUBLISHED IN APRIL (SEE
REFS). AS SUCH, IT NOTABLY INCLUDES THE COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION THAT SUCH AN ASSOCIATION BE BASED ON A
FREE TRADE AREA APPROACH AND AGAIN UNDERSCORES THE POINT
THAT LDC PARTICIPANTS WILL BE FREE TO EXTEND SIMILAR
TREATMENT TO OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES.

3. OUR SOURCES ALSO STRESS THAT THIS MANDATE COVERS
ONLY ONE OF THE POSSIBLE FORMULAS FOR RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE LDC' S IN QUESTION. SHOULD
SOME OF THE ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES SEEK A DIFFERENT FORM
OF RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY THE
COMMISSION WILL PRODUCE APPROPRIATE AND SEPARATE
NEGOTIATING MANDATES FOR SUCH ARRANGEMENTS.

4. WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN THE MANDATE ITSELF BUT ARE
TOLD THAT IT CALLS FOR THE COMMUNITY TO OFFER TO THE
AFRICANS EXEMPTIONS FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES AND RESTRICTIONS
ON THE IMPORTS OF MOST AFRICAN PRODUCTS FROM THE
OUTSET. FOR THOSE PRODUCTS NOW SUBJECT TO COMMUNITY
MARKET ORGANIZATION (CAP ITEMS) ELIGIBLE LDC' S WOULD
BE OFFERED SPECIAL TREATMENT MORE FAVORABLE THAN THAT
PROVIDED OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES. THE PARTNER COUNTRIES
WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH FREE ENTRY FOR COMMUNITY
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GOODS AT A SOMEWHAT SLOWER PACE, AND THEY WOULD BE
ALLOWED TO MAINTAIN OR ESTABLISH DUTIES OR OTHER
EQUIVALENT TAXES TO MEET DEVELOPMENT OR BUDGETARY
REQUIREMENTS.

5. THE MANDATE ALSO CALLS FOR THE COMMUNITY TO
NEGOTIATE A MECHANISM FOR THE STABILIZATION OF EXPORT

EARNINGS FOR CERTAIN COMMODITIES SOLD TO THE COMMUNITY
BY THE LDC' S PARTICIPATING IN THE PROPOSED ASSOCIATION
(REFS B, D, E).

6. THE MANDATE ALSO COVERS IN GENERAL TERMS FINANCIAL
AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION THAT WOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE
ELIGIBLE LDC COUNTRIES BUT MAKES NOT ATTEMPT TO FIX THE
LEVEL OF THAT AID. IN THIS REGARD THE COMMISSION IS
PROPOSING THAT FINANCIAL AID TO THESE COUNTRIES BE
FINANCED OUT OF THE COMMUNITY' S OWN RESOURCES.

7. THE MANDATE ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT MOST OF THE
INSTITUTIONS EXISTING UNDER THE YAOUNDE II CONVENTION
BE CONTINUED IN BASICALLY THEIR SAME FORM IN ANY
FOLLOW- ON CONVENTION.

8. THE MISSION IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE
TEXT OF THE MANDATE AND WILL FORWARD IT TO THE DEPARTMENT
WHEN AVAILABLE.

9. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AFRICAN POSTS AS DESIRED.
GREENWALD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ECBRU03410
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730627/aaaajlmj.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.EC 1817, B.EC 1818, C.EC BRUSSELS A-167, D.EC BRUSSELS A-239, E.EC BRUSSELS 3347
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <13-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980220
Subject: EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE AFRICAN ASSOCIATED AND COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIABLE COUNTRIES: EC COMMISSION DRAFT MANDATE
TAGS: ETRD, EEC
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
MULTIPLE
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005